

FOR BACKGROUND ONLY

The enclosed materials show that the Senate Majority Leader used state aircraft 11 times during the first five months of the year. The Governor used state aircraft 19 times during the same period. Lt. Governor Paterson accompanied the Governor on two of the Governor's trips, and used state aircraft on his own six times.\* The Assembly Speaker did not use state aircraft at all, nor did Comptroller Dinapoli, Senate Minority Leader Malcolm Smith or Assembly Minority Leader Tedisco.

With regard to the Majority Leader, the records show that he and his senior staff routinely used the state helicopter for transportation to New York City (See File A - Bruno manifests) where, on at least four occasions, they attended political events. A review of itineraries shows that the primary if not sole purpose of these trips at state taxpayer expense was to attend political events. (File B - Bruno itineraries)

For example, on May 17<sup>th</sup>, the Majority Leader and senior staff traveled to the NYC for the Republican State Committee's annual fund raising dinner at the Sheraton Hotel. (File C - invites) The records show that the Majority Leader held a meeting at the office of a major campaign contributor (File D - Greenberg-related contributions) and then went to the Sheraton for the political event.

On three other trips, the Majority Leader held a single meeting, usually with Mayor Bloomberg, (who has contributed more than anyone else to his campaign) and then attended fundraisers.

This political activity would appear to conflict with restrictions in state law and policy that the state aircraft be used only for "official business." This political activity would also appear to conflict with the Majority Leader's written claim that the purpose of the trips was "legislative business meetings." (File E - Requests for use of state aircraft)

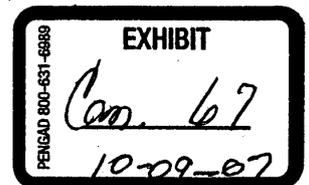
This situation may be similar to the Hevesi scandal. The former comptroller claimed there was a security threat that warranted having a staffer assigned to his wife. Upon closer examination, it was revealed that there was no threat and the staffer was acting as a companion. (The Majority Leader was quick to denounce the former Comptroller, and called on others to do so as well - File F - Bruno comments on Hevesi)

A close examination of the facts in this situation may reveal that there was little or no "legislative business" and that the Majority Leader may be guilty of both misrepresenting himself and misusing state assets.

As for the Governor's use of state aircraft, the records show that he used the aircraft to hold meetings and events that were clearly connected to his official duties. This includes making economic development announcements, meeting with local officials, and delivering remarks to local groups. With one exception, there are no political events on the Governor's schedule on days when state aircraft was used to transport the Governor. The only possible exception is April 10<sup>th</sup>, when the Governor was a speaker at an event sponsored by the Monroe County Democratic Committee. This "drop by" was part of a full day of public events and meetings with local officials in Binghamton and Rochester. (See File G - Governor's manifests and schedules).

The Governor did attend fund raising events during the five-month period, but always used private aircraft for such purposes.

\* The Lt. Governor's information (manifests and schedule) will be provided separately.



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